

TOKEN TOPICS

of the
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS.

JANUARY 1986

ISSUE # 119

Larry Edell, Editor

JAN 19th
MEETING

Our traditional January meeting will take place at the home of Bob and Molly Ritterband, at 6576 Colgate Avenue, in Los Angeles. Their phone is (213) 938-4504. The meeting will begin at 1:30 pm and please remember to bring your dues(\$3.) and material for our auction!! To get there, get off the Santa Monica Free-way at Fairfax and go North past Wilshire Blvd. Seven blocks north of Wilshire is Colgate. Then turn left (West) and go a few blocks to #6576, on the South side of the street. Why not ask a friend to come with you??

SPECIAL DOOR PRIZE At this January meeting we will give a special door prize to a lucky person. This special token was issued by our club over ten years ago and was good for a bus ride during the AVA Convention. It sold for \$10. at a recent auction. Can you guess what it is??? You might win it if you come to our January 19th meeting!!!

LAST
MEETING

Our last meeting was at Elaine Willahan's house and the following sixteen members attended: Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Dick Bestard, Boyd Cashman, Harriet Carter, Bob Carter, Fred Coops, Larry Edell, Bill Kirk, Robert Kubach, Fred McGinnis, Wally Shidler, Eleanor Smith, Ken Smith, Paul Thompson, and, of course, Elaine Willahan. We had a record breaking 36 auction lots bringing \$59.35 to the club, thanks to commissions, and, donations from Nicolosi, Willahan, Edell, Cashman, Shidler, and Kubach. (Our auction at the Jan. 19th meeting promises to be even larger, so bring your auction items and your checkbook!!) A talk by Fred McGinnis was given about Merry Go Round tokens, and, as usual wonderful (and fattening!) refreshments closed out the meeting!!!!

PLAY
MONEY

Garden State Park in New Jersey has issued special play money in denominations of \$1, \$5, and \$10 denominations, as part of a special promotion at a festival at their horseracing park. For more information about their play money or to request samples, write to Garden State Park, Administrative Offices, Box 4274, Cherry Hill NJ 08034.

MINT
MEDALS

You can get on the US Mint mailing list to get advance notice of the medals and coins it produces. Write to: Bureau of the Mint, 55 Mint Street, San Francisco, CA 94175. They also have a free recorded message, call (800) 368-5510.

TRAIN
CHECKS

Your personal checks do not have to be printed by your bank, anyone can print them for you. Identity Checks have checks depicting trains, fire trucks, balloons, World War airplanes, etc. For train buffs and transit token collectors they have a selection of four different trains- the I.C. 4-8-2, the E.A. B&O, the Yellowstone 2-8-8-4, and the Chessie GP38. 200 checks cost only \$12.00, just a little more than the bank charges. For an information packet, write to IDENTITY CHECK PRINTERS, Box 149-D, Park Ridge, IL 60068. They will send you samples and an order blank at no charge.

METRO RAIL As most of you know, Metro Rail is finally getting off the ground in Los Angeles. There is money right now for a four mile strip in downtown L.A. If additional funds come through, the four miles will stretch to Santa Monica, North Hollywood, and Downey. This is all high speed underground trains. Then, there will be Disneyland-type Monorails built in Canoga Park, Glendale, and Monterey Park. Then, we will have "light rail" (streetcars, trolleys, etc) connecting Long Beach, Pasadena, Norwalk, LAX, Redondo Beach, and Sherman Oaks. The High Speed Metro Rail project is starting now and will be finished in 1992 (only six years away!!) and the light rail project will end about the same time. The monorails have unspecified start and finish dates. It goes without saying that the Los Angeles area is going to change drastically (probably giving us lots of new tokens!!!) and in another ten years our city will look completely different!

1986. DUES Please remember to bring your \$3 dues to the January meeting!!! If you can't attend, please mail them to: ELAINE WILLAHAN, 516 West 99th Street, L.A., CA 90044. Remember, we will have a special door prize and auction at the meeting, so please try to attend.

FREE ADS Ads are free in TOKEN Topics, to members of CATC only. For the March issue, send all ads to Steve Alpert, P.O. Box 66331, Los Angeles CA 90066, or, just bring them to the January 19th meeting at Bob Ritterband's!!!!

WANTED- Any item: Tokens, woods, WPA, postcards, photos, or ads from Burlington, Iowa/Des Moines County, Iowa or Witt, Illinois/Montgomery County, Illinois. All replies answered promptly.

LLOYD ANDRIES JR., P.O. Box 624, Witt, IL 62094

WILL trade ten different personals for ten different of yours, or any ten transit tokens. LARRY EDELL, 7211 Cozycroft #68, Canoga Park 91306

BOOKS FOR SALE: New Video Arcade, Pinball, Slot Machine & Amusement token catalog, hard cover only \$11.00!! "THE BEST OF TOKEN TOPICS" reprint book, \$7.00. Large Lucky Souvenir Coin Catalog \$5.00. SPECIAL all 3 books \$18. STEVE ALPERT, Box 66331, Los Angeles CA 90066.

WASHINGTON CATALOGS AVAILABLE. (1.) Trade tokens of Kitsap, Lewis, Mason and Thurston Co., Washington. This catalog lists 736 tokens from 85 towns. It also included a rarity guide and Maverick index. (This one is brand new) (2) Trade Tokens of Pierce Co. Washington. This catalog lists 1126 tokens from 63 towns. It has a rarity rating on all towns except Tacoma (pub. Jan 1985). Each catalog is only \$6., postpaid. Both catalogs \$11.00 postpaid. Order either or both from: AL ERICKSON, P.O. Box 99667, Tacoma, Washington 98499

WANTED: Venice and Ocean Park, California items.
Fred McGinnis, P.O. Box 45855, Los Angeles, Ca 90045

Anyone collect LETTERHEADS? I have hundreds of them dating back 40 or more years, mostly 8½x4½... You may have as many as you want as long as you send a large envelope with proper postage..first come first serve. My November ad still good except that MI 560TUVW is \$4.00 per set not \$3.00. Foreigns available for SAE. JOHN G. NICOLOSI, 2565 Portola Drive #43, Santa Cruz CA 95062-5044

National Football Foundation Hall of Fame. Centennial of first Inter-collegiate football game in 1969. Bronze, 64 mm. Medalllic Arts. Just \$9.86 ppd. WILLIGES, P.O.Box 445, Wheatland, Calif 95692

TOKEN TOPICS

of the
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

MARCH, 1986
Issue No. 120

Stephen P. Alpert,
Editor

MARCH MEETING Don't miss this one! Our Sunday, March 16th meeting may prove to be one of our biggest and best of recent years. Elaine Willahan will be hosting the March meeting. (Note - this is a change from the location discussed at the January meeting.) The address is 516 West 99th St., Los Angeles, CA 90044, right near Century & Figueroa, one block from the Harbor Freeway (Century exit). The hours of the meeting will be about 1 to 5 PM as usual (you're always free to arrive and leave when you wish). An exciting auction will highlight the meeting. Elaine has some old books on local history that will be auctioned, plus coin albums to be auctioned cheaply or given away free to those present. Also on hand for the auction are modern railroad medals, a nice old bronze railroad plaque medal, trade tokens, and transportation tokens. Plus you never know what surprises people will bring for the auction, or for sale or trade at the meeting. Plan on submitting something for the auction; better single pieces or bulk lots do well. A good contingent of bidders should be at the meeting, to assure nothing goes too cheaply.

The auction, plus all the other token activity and Elaine's delicious pies and cakes buffet, should make for a great afternoon.

JANUARY MEETING REPORT: The Fairfax area of Los Angeles was the site for our January meeting, hosted by Bob and Molly Ritterband. Sixteen people were there: Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Dick Bestard, Bob & Harriet Carter, Boyd Cashman, Larry Edell, Larry Elman, Fred McGinnis, Bob Ritterband, Wally Shidler, Ken Smith, George Ticknor, Elaine Willahan; plus guests Betty Cashman and Molly Ritterband. The main topic discussed at the meeting was our bulging treasury of over \$800, and what constructive use some of the money could be put to. Suggestions abounded, including sponsoring an exounia book project by a CATC member; expanding the size of Token Topics (we need more people to send in ads, information, or articles to accomplish this); offering desirable exounia as door prizes to entice more local members to attend our meetings; and issuing an updated membership list (see below).

The door prize at the January meeting was the 1975 AVA Convention tour token; it was won by Elaine Willahan, who donated it to the club auction. The auction was an exciting one, with 30 lots of tokens, medals, exounia journals, transit magazines, timetables, transfers, etc. Material was donated by Edell, Shidler, Bestard, Alpert, and Willahan (plus a \$2 cash donation from George Ticknor). In all, our treasury gained \$28.90 from the donations and 10% commissions. Some auction highlights were a box of transportation tokens bringing \$25; 30 Sofspra car wash tokens fetching \$35; and a box of amusement tokens at \$13. There was much competitive bidding, ably handles by auctioneer John Barnes.

Another topic discussed at the meeting was Don Alpert (no relation), the coin columnist of the Los Angeles Times, whose understanding of exounia is even less than his apparent lack of knowledge of numismatics. A recent excerpt from his column is included in this issue, for your enjoyment.

LAST CALL FOR 1986 CATC DUES This is the last issue of Token Topics you will receive if you haven't yet paid your \$3.00 CATC dues for 1986*. Send to Elaine Willahan, 516 W.99th St., L.A., CA 90044. *There is a star on your address label if you haven't paid your dues. Check the envelope!

Your Coins

Discovering Obscure Numismatic Items

By DON ALPERT

There's no end to what you can learn in numismatics. No one knows it all, but there's usually someone who is familiar with seemingly obscure and little-known items.

minted, emergency money used during the coin shortage of the Civil War. The sutler was a civilian who sold merchandise to the troops. (The sutler's work is equivalent to a modern-day post exchange.)

The token mentioned, according to Detwiler, was made by a die sinker, Francis X. Koehler of Baltimore. "Koehler made store cards," Detwiler said, "for Baltimore merchants as well as sutlers,

Such is the case with a query mentioned in the Dec. 19 column regarding a Civil War token. Several readers responded, including Jack R. Detwiler, past president of the Civil War Token Society.

"I was able to recognize the piece as a Civil War token,"

but he signed only his sutler tokens. Victor Beaudry (another name mentioned in the token query) served as a sutler for the 4th U.S. Infantry in addition to the 1st Regiment of the U.S. Cavalry." This particular token is numbered C100B on Page 78 of David E. Schenkman's "Civil War Sutler Tokens" (1983, Jade House, Box 419, Bryantown, Md. 20617, \$17.50 postpaid), Detwiler says, and the rarity factor is R9. One to four

Detwiler writes. "There are three categories: patriotics (anonymous store card; usually has a patriotic theme), store card (has merchant's name on obverse or reverse) and sutler tokens (military tokens with a sutler's name and unit). The tokens were privately

known specimens. It would sell, he says, for \$30 to \$200, depending upon condition.

Another comment comes from Stephen P. Alpert (no relation), who says: "I wish you would stop bad-mouthing tokens and medals by saying they have no numismatic value, are hard to identify and can only be sold at garage sales. There are thousands of token and medal collectors, and Please see YOUR COINS, Page 10

Continued from Page 5

hundreds of books and journals on the subject. I make my living selling them." Alpert confirms the token's identity and says "I would pay \$50 for it if it is in nice condition."

Still another comment comes from F. A. Rohrman, who uses as his source Walker and Zarling's "Indian Traders and Sutlers," Page 9. He says that several of these tokens exist, and they're worth about \$10 to \$15.

Steve: "What's your opinion of this Token?"

Don:

"Totally worthless!"

Steve: "The token?"

Don:

"No, my opinion."

NEW MEMBERS & MEMBERSHIP LIST

It has been several years since we issued a CATC membership list with member's collecting interests. Since then, many people have dropped out, many new people have joined, and collecting interests have changed. We plan to issue a new membership list this summer, so please inform our Secretary Elaine Willahan if you have any additions or updates of your collecting interests, or if you wish to have your address not appear on the list (we do not distribute or sell this list to people outside the CATC).

Meanwhile, here are several new members who joined in recent months:

Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., 5937 Beadle Dr., Jamesville, N.Y. 13078 [Elongated coins]
Owen Hollingsworth, 115 San Augustine Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 [see his ad here]
George Fuja, 5914 S. California, Chicago, IL 60629 [gaming tokens]
Bill Johnson, 4140-B Adelaide, Klamath Falls, OR 97601 [Nevada, Modoc Co., and
Eastside Sierra tokens]
George Ganter, 580 E. St. Andrews Dr., Media, PA 19063
Joseph F. De Riso, 704 Lincoln Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06606 [T.T., wood, video arcade]
Jeff Rock, 10358 Buena Vista Ave., Santee, CA 92071

NEW BOOKS
OF INTEREST

Dick Bestard brings to our attention an upcoming book, The Revised and Enlarged Edition of RAILROADS OF NORTH AMERICA available from Joseph Gross, 28 Parkhurst Dr., Spencerport, NY 14559. Approximately 10,000

railroads will be listed alphabetically in tabular form: original name, abbreviation initials, miles, dates, and subsequent name. This should help identify many railroad-related tokens and tags that have initials only. The book includes an initial index and photos. Pre-publication price is \$27.95 postpaid; after April 1, price will be \$34.95 postpaid. Two sample pages will be at the March meeting for your examination. (I'm checking on buying a quantity wholesale - so I may have them for sale at our May meeting; but I need to know who wants one. Steve Alpert.)

I just received my copy of the All New 3rd Edition of CASH FOR YOUR UNDISCOVERED TREASURES! by Dr. H.A. Hyman (350 pages, 8½x11, soft cover). It's a guide to what items are collected, and who will buy them through the mail. Almost 1500 collectors & dealers and what they want to buy are listed by topics, with a giant index of about 1500 categories & types of material. The chapter headings are: Big home items, Little home items, Table-Kitchenware, Glassware, Figurals, Jewelry, Textiles, Dolls, Toys, Pop Culture, Entertainment, Music, Coin-Op, Vices, Sports, Amusements, Americana, Guns-Military, Medals-Tokens, Money, Stamps, Business, Advertising, Transportation, Miscellaneous, Photography, Art, Paper, Postcards, Newspapers-Magazines, and Books. (Exonumia has finally made it big in collectibles - getting its own chapter!; 6 pages with 32 people and the exonumia they want.) The price of the book is \$19.95 plus \$3 handling, from Treasure Hunt Publications, P.O. Box 1710, Temple City, CA 91780. The author, Tony Hyman, has and will be appearing on many radio & TV talk shows, discussing collectibles and promoting the book. A TV ad campaign is also planned. (Note- he had trouble with the printer as all 15,000 copies of this first printing have some minor wrinkling of the paper on many of the pages; doesn't affect the text at all. Tell him you'll accept such a copy and he may include his SELL-A-GRAM forms as a free gift if you so request and mention my name, Steve Alpert.)

FREE ADS FROM MEMBERS:

My next mail bid sale, #24, closing in May, will contain on consignment Elaine Willahan's large transportation token collection. CATC members not already on my mailing list can request a free copy of the sale catalogue. Stephen Alpert, P.O. Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066

Encased Lincoln Cent in Horseshoe token, & 26 page list of Casino gaming tokens & chips. Only \$2.00. Don Bestle, P.O.Box 6445, Burbank, CA 91505

Serious collector of Civil War Tokens needs scarce and rare pieces for her personal collection. All letters answered. Cindy Grellman, 6733 Post Oak Ln., Montgomery, AL 36117

<oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo>
I collect British Condor tokens, 1700-1800 tokens & medals, Hard Times Tokens, Canadian tokens, Transportation tokens, S.Dak. and Santa Cruz County merchant tokens and medals, also U.S.,British & Canadian coins. I would like to buy or trade for these items. Owen Hollingsworth, 115 San Augustine Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066

<oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo>
Send SAE for my Sale-Trade list of almost 2000 Transp.
Tokens. Bill Garrison, 9505 Normandy Ave., Morton Grove
IL 60053

<ooooooooooooooo>
Buying Nevada trade tokens. Please write. Bill Johnson,
4140-B Adelaide, Klamath Falls, OR 97603

Gaming tokens wanted; also personal tokens. Send SASE or your personal token. Gordon Fitzgerald, 24365 San Fernando Rd., Suite#148, Newhall, CA 91321

<ooooooooooooooo>
Movie money coins and currency wanted; also movie
studio tokens, and exonumia of comedians. Stephen
Alpert, Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066

TOKEN TOPICS

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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

May 1986

Issue No. 121

Larry Edell, Editor

May 18
Meeting

Please plan to attend our May 18th meeting at the home of Elaine Willahan, 516 West 99th Street, in Los Angeles....it promises to be one of our best ones yet, judging on previous performances!!! An exciting auction, engineered by master auctioneer John Barnes will be one of the high points of our meeting--many valuable tokens, medals, and Railroad books will be auctioned off to the highest bidder, with 10% of proceeds going to our club! There will also be plenty of stories, swapping, and selling, so be sure to attend and bring a friend!! Our meeting will start at 1 PM and end with a wonderful Elaine Willahan Dessert Buffet!!! To get there, just take the Harbor Freeway to the Century Blvd exit, go West to Figueroa, turn right to 99th Street, turn left and park!! Be sure to bring a friend, something for our auction, and lots to trade!!!

Previous
Meeting

Our March meeting was also hosted by Elaine, and was attended by the following 14 CATC members: Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Dick Bestard, Larry Edell, Boyd Cashman, Gorden Fitzgerald, Fred McGinnis, Bill Kirk, Bob Kuback, Robert Ritterband, Wally Shidler, Chuck Short, Ken Smith, and of course Elaine Willahan. Our auction included some interesting historical books, some train plaques, and many tokens and medals. Our club made \$9.70 on commissions. We were reminded to get our list of interests in to Elaine for the upcoming, new, expanded, membership roster. Elaine also said that members can purchase back issues of TOKEN TOPICS for only 10¢ each!! Elaine also gave away some old coin albums to members who could use them! Everyone had a great time.....Why dont YOU meet us on May 18th!!!!

California
Exonumists

The California Exonumist Society will hold its annual meeting and show on June 29, 1986, at Griswolds Restaurant in Fullerton. Take the 91 Freeway east to Raymond Avenue and go one block north. 50¢ will be charged for the bourse, and, door prizes will be awarded.

Mailing
Lists

You can get yourself on the following mailing lists to receive notice of new tokens, medals, and coins from these countries. Just write to them and ask to be put on their mailing list. CANADA - Royal Canadian Mint, P.O. Box 454, Station A, Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1N 8V5. ENGLAND - British Royal Mint, Barclays Bank, P.O. Box 2560, New York, NY 10163. ISRAEL - Israel Govt Coins and Medals Corp., 19th floor, 350 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10001.

FRANKLIN MINT The Franklin Mint has a wonderful new series out-- that of miniature precision old locomotives. There is a set of 25 authentically detailed models all individually cast in solid pewter and finished by hand. They sell for #27.50 each. For a free brochure, write to the Franklin Mint, Franklin Center, Pennsylvania 19091

FREE NICKEL The Dedicated Wooden Money Collectors is offering a Free Chicago Bears commemorative wooden nickel, along with a sample copy of their newsletter, Timber Times. Just write to LLOYD ANDRIES, Box 624, Witt IL 62094.

NOSTALGIA GRAPHICS Nostalgia graphics has a great series of original paintings and reproductions of the trains and buses of the 1920s and 1930s. I will bring their print of ANGELS FLIGHT to the May 18th meeting. They have a studio and store inside the Valley Indoor Swap Meet (one of the biggest and best in the world!) at 6345 Variel Ave., in Woodland Hills, every Sunday and Saturday. Besides Angels Flight, they also have inexpensive (less than \$1. each) prints of the Union Passenger Terminal, the L.A. Airport, the Pacific Electric Railway, and many other transportation related scenes.

FREE ADS You can put a free ad in every issue of TOKEN TOPICS. I (Larry Edell) edit the January, May, and September issues. Steve Alpert edits the March, July, and November issues. So send your ads for the next issue (july) to Stephen Alpert, P.O.Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066.

Wanted: Elongated Coins. Will buy, trade, or sell. Write first.
Doug Fairbanks Sr., 5937 Beadle Drive, Jamesville, NY 13078

Will trade five different Personal tokens for any five different tokens. LARRY EDELL, 7211 Cozycroft #68, Canoga Park CA 91306

Aluminum presidential tokens put out by SHELL "Shell's Mr. President Coin Game" I have one lot of 100 assorted coins, to the highest bid., white metal reeded edge size of silver dollar real nice UNC.. "Think Safety Work Safely"(Incentive Dollar) This dollar can be exchanged for incentive awards. PKS (Contractors SEC Southern Electric Contractors) \$1. plus 39¢ postage. THINK, Safety pays you. John G.Nicolosi, 2565 Portola Dr # 43, Santa Cruz CA 95062-5044-

You can help Williges celebrate 23 years at exclusive token and medal sales. Send 23¢ for antiqued bronze dollar-size Hollywood, CA Medal, FREE!! At least next 3 fixed price exonomic lists.
BILL WILLIGES, Box 445, Wheatland, California 95692

BOOKS FOR SALE- New Video Arcade, Pinball, Slot Machine & Amusement token catalog, hard cover, only \$11.00!! "THE BEST OF TOKEN TOPICS" reprint book,\$7.00. Large Lucky Souvenir Coin Catalog, \$5.00. SPECIAL: All three books only \$18.00 postpaid!!!
STEPHEN ALPERT, P.O.BOX 66331, Los Angeles CA 90066

Buying Hawaiian tokens, school lunch, saloons, dairies, plantation transportation, amusement, encased cents, medals, and military.
GARY LAU, 4366 Kilauea Ave., Honolulu, HI 96816

TOKEN TOPICS

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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

JULY, 1986
Issue No. 122

Stephen P. Alpert,
Editor

JULY MEETING Our July meeting will again be at the home of Elaine Willahan. So plan to be there on July 20th, Sunday, from about one to five in the afternoon. The address is 516 West 99th St., Los Angeles, CA 90044, near the Century Exit of the Harbor Freeway, right near Century & Figueroa. Bring material to swap, or to place in the auction. This month's auction will include all the duplicate and unsold transportation tokens from Elaine's collection that was recently sold by mail auction. A few better pieces still remain.

We haven't had a speaker or program at our meetings for a long time. But we will have one for July. Steve Alpert will present an audio tape he prepared covering the singing career of "The Tokens" (see his article on The Tokens in this issue of Token Topics). It will enable you to become familiar with our hobby namesake in the music and recording world, if you aren't so already.

MAY MEETING REPORT Our May meeting, hosted by Elaine Willahan, was our 175th meeting. It also happened to be one of our smallest attendance meetings in a long time, with just eleven members present: Steve Alpert, Boyd Cashman, John Barnes, Bob Carter, Larry Edell, Gordon Fitzgerald, Fred McGinnis, Wally Shidler, Paul Thompson, George Ticknor, and Elaine Willahan. The May club auction contained 20 lots of assorted exonumia, paper items, and books. Donations from McGinnis, Edell, Alpert, and Willahan, plus the 10% commission to the club, enriched our treasury by \$8.25. In addition, George Ticknor donated \$5.00 in cash. Thanks to all for the donations.

MEMBERSHIP LIST Our current CATC Membership list with collecting interests of our members has been published, and is included with this issue of Token Topics to all paid members only. We have two new members to welcome: George Rickards of Pennsylvania (see Membership list); and Daniel Manasselian, 4890 E. Nevada, Fresno, CA 93727, who collects northern California trade tokens.

MORE ON THE BEAUDRY SUTLER TOKEN The March issue of Token Topics reproduced some information on a sutler token that was written up in the coin column of the Los Angeles Times. CATC member David Desmond sent in some additional interesting information. He wrote:

"I found the article on the V. BEAUDRY 1ST. REG. U.S. CAVALRY very interesting. Unfortunately the token did not get the credit it deserved by those who appraised its value. There are at least 20+ of the BEAUDRY tokens known in at least 5 different denominations. There are at least 6 of them on display currently at the Eastern California museum in Independence, Calif. Despite the number known, two BEAUDRY tokens recently sold for \$350.00 each. Besides being a sutler, Beaudry was the co-founder of the mining camp of Cerro Gordo, Calif. in the early 1870's. This mining boom proved to be one of the largest silver mines in the U.S. Beaudry's brother was an early day mayor of Los Angeles and a street in Los Angeles is named after him. There are very few tokens around that have the amount of history behind it as the BEAUDRY token of CAMP INDEPENDENCE."

IOWA TOWN RARITY LIST: George Hosek, 7411 Idledale Lane, Omaha, NE 68112 has available for \$5 postpaid his new 38-page publication "Iowa Merchant Trade Token Town Rarity List." The tokens of 35 collections are tabulated as

to how many different tokens each collection has for each Iowa town. Plus there are listings for particular types of tokens such as dairy, canning, saloon, etc. Many tokens are illustrated by rubbings. Although there is a large catalogue listing the tokens of Iowa individually by town (by Lewis Ferguson, published by TAMS, 1984), this work is a handy guide to the scarcity of Iowa towns.

THE TOKENS
OF ROCK

The Tokens are back, and performing their oldies songs right here in Los Angeles. To appreciate this event, let me fill you in on their story.

I was a fan of the rock and roll group "The Tokens" several years before I got interested in our metallic token friends.

The singing Tokens are from the Brighton Beach area of southern Brooklyn, N.Y., a neighborhood nearby to where I grew up. In fact, one of the Tokens (the youngest, Mitch Margo) was in my freshman high school home room class, at the time The Tokens had their big hit "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" in 1961.

The Tokens (Hank Medress, Jay Siegel, Phil Margo, Mitch Margo) began as backup singers of Neil Sedaka (another Brighton Beach boy who attended the same high school but several years before I did; however I was a school buddy of his cousin, Mark Sedaka). In 1961 The Tokens made it big on their own, with their number one hit "The Lion Sleeps Tonight", which is the African folk song "Wimoweh" with new lyrics. Today, 25 years later, it still remains popular, receiving regular play on the rock oldies radio stations. And whenever such radio stations take polls on the most popular rock songs of all time, "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" almost always places in the top 50. It is a unique tune - nothing else quite resembles it. I remember quite well those high-pitched yodel notes reverberating through the empty high school corridors, sung by students imitating The Tokens.

Unfortunately The Tokens were unable to follow up with another number one song. They had a hit with "Tonight I Fell In Love" (a song they wrote and recorded before "Lion") which only infrequently gets radio play these days. I can't recall ever hearing any other Token song on the radio. Five and a half years after their big hit, they came out with a sequel in 1966: "Wimoweh 5½ Years Later" which wasn't a success. Several other of their efforts of the early to mid 1960's also failed to become big hits: "I Hear Trumpets Blow" (written by The Tokens); "It's A Happening World"; and "Portrait of my Love."

At about this time, The Tokens began working behind the microphones, doing arranging, song writing, and producing work for other groups, primarily The Happenings (who sound very much like The Tokens). The Happenings had two hits, "See You In September" and "I Got Rhythm."

By the late 1960's, The Tokens found success singing in TV commercials. Their most memorable such effort was on a Miss Clairol hair commercial, where they sang "She Lets Her Hair Down (When The Sun Comes Up...Early In The Morning)". Probably based on this tune, they released their album "Both Sides Now," featuring the hair song, "Both Sides Now," "Don't Worry Baby," and the best of their early songs. But this effort, billed as "the great Token revival" apparently lead nowhere.

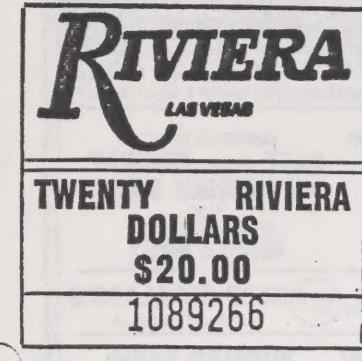
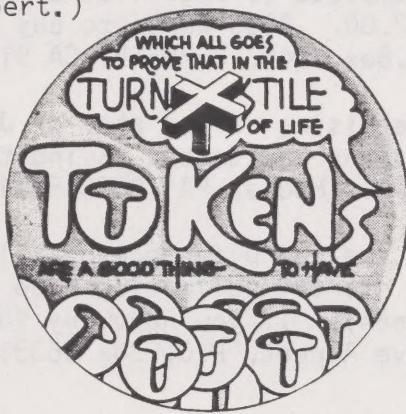
Next, in the early 1970's, The Tokens produced and starred in a daily TV musical game show called "Musical Chairs." It was hosted by singer Adam Wade (probably the first black game show host in TV history). The contestants sat in chairs that were on tracks; when a player was eliminated, the chair withdrew. The last player left on stage won. The game consisted of The Tokens, on a side stage and often in costume, singing part of a song and then stopping, followed by singing 3 or 4 versions of the next line of the song. The players had to pick the correct lyrics. As I recall, the show lasted only 2 or 3 months, if that long.



Then in 1973 it was back to recording records, but this time under a new name, "Cross Country." ("Tokens Now Cross Country" was the title of a little filler article I wrote for TAMS Journal back then.) Only now it was a trio (Hank left). Their 1973 album "Cross Country" on ATCO (no, not the Active Token Collectors Organization), featured mostly songs they wrote. But the only song that may have briefly made the airwaves was their rendition of "In The Midnight Hour."

Apparently nothing much became of Cross Country or The Tokens, who disbanded around the mid 1970's. But they have reunited a few times in the 1980's for oldies shows. Around March of this year I heard radio spots advertising the return of The Tokens at Mischa's Restaurant in Hollywood. The Tokens also did radio promos for KRLA (an oldies station in Los Angeles).

(Note: the information in the above article came mostly from my memory of having followed The Tokens' career over the years. I hope it is accurate and correct, but I'm sure it is incomplete. Steve Alpert.)



This promotion, all or in part, is subject to change, or cancellation, without prior notice at the discretion of RIVIERA'S management.

NON-TRANSFERABLE
REDEEMABLE AT
REDEMPTION CENTER

Mischa's	
with CHRISTOPHER HARTMAN PRESENTS	
TONITE MARVIN & JOHNNY "CHERRY PIE"	
AND THE TOKENS "THE LION SLEEPS TONITE"	
APRIL 11&12	RUSSIAN SHOW BALALAIIKA TRIO RUSSIAN DANCERS
APRIL 13	LUDA RUSSIAN GYPSY SINGER, BELLY DANCER—BALLROOM DANCING
APRIL 16	THE SPANIELS "GOODNIGHT, SWEETHEART, GOODNIGHT"
APRIL 17	TIERRA LIMO SERVICE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST
7561 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood. DINNER & SHOW RESERVATIONS 213/874-3467 TICKETMASTER 213/480-3232	

SLOT MACHINE PREMIUM TICKETS

A new form of slot machine premium is being used at the Riviera casino in Las Vegas, with their dollar carousel slot machines.

On every twentieth coin played into the machine, the machine automatically dispenses one of the blue tickets illustrated above. Each ticket is worth Twenty Riviera Dollars in exchange for merchandise at the redemption center. For \$40 you can get a keychain; for \$100 a velcro wallet; etc., up to a blender for \$8,000.

See page 4 for this issue's free member ads. For the September issue, send your ad to Larry Edell (see Membership list for address).

FREE MEMBER ADS:

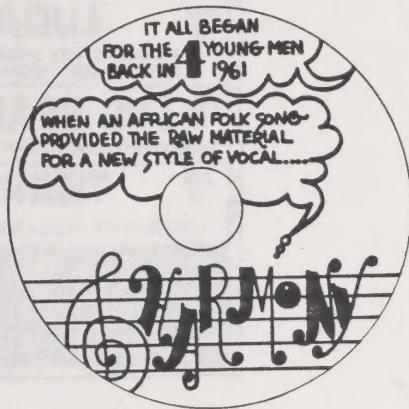
Statue of Liberty honored by Lake Havasu City, Arizona Rotary Club. Dollar size. Goldene. Only \$2.86 prepaid. 2 for \$4.86. Williges, Box 445, Wheatland, CA 95692

"Patches,(shoulder),Police, for trade for other patches, have some out of state, want Calif. also have police combat shoot patches, from several Northern Cities, and different years Very colorful all mine are brand new and will swap for like patch, for patch. Julies/Massage Studio/Tel:325-8080/Bear Springs/Nev./**(FANTASY)** Rev Good for/\$1.00/on next Massage/ green plastic wh.letters 38mm/have several at \$1.00 each and postage." John Nicolosi, 2565 Portola Dr. Sp.43, Santa Cruz,CA 95062

Lucky encased penny, with complete 22-page list of Nevada & Atlantic City gaming & casino tokens & chips for \$2.00. Also wants to buy toy fire trucks, old keys, & fireman badges. DEB'S, P.O.Box 6445, Burbank, CA 91505 [Don Bestle]

WANTED: Tokens, medals, advertising cards, etc. of John Wanamaker. Also want Washingtonia, PA merchant tokens and tokens having to do with pianos. George R. Ganter, 580 E. St. Andrews Dr., Media, PA 19063-5804

I will have a few copies of the new play money catalogue book for sale at the July CATC meeting. Also, I just started collecting Hobo Nickels (the nice older ones only; not the modern made ones). If you have any for sale, or for trade for other exonumia, let me know. Steve Alpert, P.O. Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066



On the illustration on page 2, from left to right are Jay, Hank, Mitch, and Phil.

Mischas
RESTAURANT & CABARET
EVERY FRI., SAT., RUSSIAN SHOW
SUN. RUSSIAN GYPSY SINGER & BELLY DANCER

SUNDAY JUNE 29 EUROSUN WINNER
KATE — FROM NORWAY
ALSO RUSSIAN SHOW
BELGIAN SENSATION
NICOLE MERY

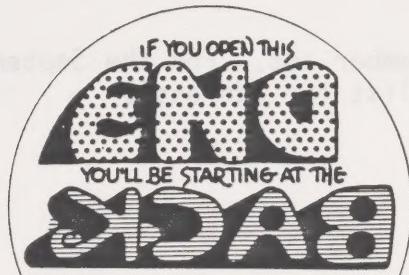
EVERY MONDAY **RUDY REGALADO'S**
LATIN JAZZ & SALSA

TUESDAY JULY 1 **RUSSIAN SHOW**

WED. JULY 2 **THE TOKENS**

THU. JULY 3RD **LA DEBUT** ALL AMERICAN
4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION
THE NEW SEEKERS

7561 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood
DINNER & SHOW RESERVATIONS 213/874-3467



TOKEN TOPICS, September 1986
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Eleanor. It is my sad duty to report that CATC member Eleanor Smith died recently, of cancer. Her husband Ken (Foreign and amusement cataloger) and son Kirk are grieved by their loss, and may take a while to get back in the swing of things. A sympathy card will be sent on behalf of CATC.

Last Meeting In attendance at the July meeting were: Steve Alpert, Bob and Harriet Carter, Boyd Cashman, Dick Bestard, John Barnes, Gordon Fitzgerald, Bill Kirk, Fred McGinnis, Bob Ritterband, Frank Roselinsky, Wally Shidler, Elaine Willahan, and, a special guest from Florida, Douglas Borden. Steve Alpert played tapes of several songs recorded by "The Tokens" rock and roll group. The auction featured TAMS Journals from 1965 to 1982, auctioned in yearly lots. They sold for up to \$6 per volume and contributed to the \$13 our club received in donations (from Dick Bestard and Frank Roselinsky) and commissions. Two old members were reinstated: James Garner & Merlin Null.

Next Meeting Our next meeting will be held on September 21, 1986, at the home of Elaine Willahan, 516 West 99th Street, in Los Angeles, starting at 1PM. Take the Harbor Freeway to the Century Blvd exit, go West one block to Figueroa, turn North to 99th Street, turn left on 99th and park. Elaine's phone is 755-2708. Please bring tokens and other items to swap and sell, as well as material for our club auction!! Also, think of someone (maybe yourself???) who would like to run for CATC Vice President (and Co-Editor of TOKEN TOPICS) as Larry Edell has announced that he will not be running for re-election at our November meeting.

Vietnam Military tokens wanted for personal collection. Send price and rubbing to ED ELLENBECK, P.O. Box 15081, Tucson AZ 85708

Williges exonomic junk may be your treasure. 100 mixed exonomic items only \$8.86 prepaid!! FREE!! Next 3 token/medal price lists!! WILLIGES, Box 445, Wheatland, California 95692

WANTED: Matchbook Covers - all kinds - used or mint condition.
ELAINE WILLAHAN, 516 West 99th Street, L.A., CA 90044

FREE! My next token and medal mail bid sale! Attention bidders! Please pick up your lots from sale #25 at the Septemer 21st meeting.
STEPHEN P. ALPERT, P.O. Box 66331, L.A., CA 90066 (213) 478-7405

"Australian, Wisconsin and California Dog Tags, 4 different (my choice) \$1.00 plus SASE. Also have Christmas seal, Sister Kenny, Easter Seals Boys Town Seals, Scripture Seals, T.B. Seals, Veterans Seals, and many others including some Wine Seals internal revenue (bottle) and many others too numerous to mention at this time. I am open to offers.
JOHN NICOLOSI, #43, 2565 Portola Drive, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

TOKEN TOPICS

of the

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

NOVEMBER, 1986
Issue No. 124

Stephen P. Alpert,
Editor

Sunday afternoon, Nov. 16, 1PM to 4:30 PM

NOVEMBER MEETING Elaine Willahan will host our November 1986 meeting, at her home at 516 W. 99th St., Los Angeles, near the Century exit of the Harbor Freeway. She will be serving her delicious cakes & pies, which should attract most of our local members to the meeting. Don't forget to bring along material to swap or sell or consign to the club auction - search your drawers, boxes, attic, cellar, pockets, or wherever your unwanted exonumia odds and ends may be hiding, and bring them along to the meeting. There's been a sparsity of material at our meetings lately; let's change that trend.

Larry Edell is unable to continue as our Vice President and Co-Editor of Token Topics. A volunteer (who regularly attends our meetings) is requested to replace him as Vice President and maybe also co-editor. Our 1987 slate of officers will be determined at the November meeting. Don't let this keep you away - no one will be pressured to be an officer, nor elected in absentia.

1987 DUES ARE DUE! It's time to submit your \$3.00 dues, for another wonderful year's membership in our friendly association. Send the three dollars to Elaine Willahan, 516 W. 99th St., Los Angeles, CA 90044. At the same time, why not enclose a free ad for the next issue of Token Topics. Members attending the November meeting can pay in person.

SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT CATC members who met at our last meeting at Elaine's home were: Steve Alpert, John Barnes, Boyd Cashman, Bob & Harriet Carter, Larry Elman, Bob Kubach, Fred McGinnis, Wally Shidler, Ken Smith, George Ticknor, and Elaine Willahan. Also present were guests Gary Watkins, and Jack & Ona Von Blocker. Fred McGinnis, who recently visited the world's fair in Vancouver, gave us an interesting report on the fair and its numismatic offerings (he searched but found no exonumia at the fair). A small but exciting club auction generated the most competitive bidding we've had in a long time. Featured lots were about 20 years of Fare Box issues (sold for \$65), a group of transit pinback buttons (sold for \$15), and a Balloon Route Trolley Trip ticket (sold for \$10). Other tokens, tickets, and books were also in the auction, which generated \$10.35 in commissions to the club. Plus George Ticknor gave a \$2 donation.

F R E E M E M B E R A D S:

FOR SALE, plus post.: Utah 300A (Convention token), \$10.00; Cal. 825F,G 25¢ ea.; Mi. 560 T,U,V,W \$4.00 P.P.; WI-825L 75¢; Ill 999R \$1.25; Pa. 495V,W,X set \$1.80. John G. Nicolosi, 2565 Portola Dr. #43, Santa Cruz, CA 95062-5044

YOUR BEST merchant token investment. Metal with city/state. 10 different only \$4.86 prepaid. 20 different \$8.86. Free lists. Williges, Box 445, Wheatland, CA 95692

SEND LARGE SASE for list of over 800 different modern Arcade tokens for trade. I am also looking for Parking and Car Wash tokens. Marvin E. Simon, 10 Gallup St., Westerly, RI 02891

ELAINE WILLAHAN is now avidly collecting match books. Please send her some match book covers with your 1987 dues (address above), or bring them to the November meeting.

HOBO NICKELS wanted. Nice old carved buffalo nickels only (modern-made ones not wanted. Paying \$10 to \$20 each. Collections or singles wanted for my personal collection. I also buy all exonumia for resale (please write or ship for my cash offer) or I can sell your material or collection in my mail bid sales. Steve Alpert, P.O. Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066

19 YEARS AGO: While scouring a swap meet locally, early this month, I found among old books, a numismatic mail bid sale catalogue (Sept. 1967) of Abner Kreisberg of Beverly Hills. It is complete with prices realized booklet. A wide variety of exonumia was in that 4100 lot sale. I've selected some interesting lots, and have listed them below, with both the catalogue estimate [given in brackets], and the selling price - given at the end of the line. (Note : I'll be placing the catalog in CATC's November meeting auction.)

Nogales, Ariz. Fifth Cavalry Post Exchange, 25, VF, [25] - \$20
 Transp. Atwood Conn. 290A in red vulcanite, XF, [50] - \$70
 Rock Lake, No. Dak., E. Larson, 5¢, XF, [10] - \$1.15
 Elongated dime, Columbian Expo., XF, [20] - \$8
 1902 Wells Fargo silver medal, HK296, Unc., no box, [200+] - \$120
 Four Lesher Dollars, [300-350 each] - \$210 to \$275 each
 Silver Bryan dollar, HK781, [100+] - \$65
 Two satirical Bryan Dollars, Zerbe 71 & 86, [150 ea.] - \$45 each
 24 diff. Admiral Vernon colonial medals, [500] - \$210
 25-piece set Heraldic Art silver so-called half dollars, 1959-65 - \$120
 Encased postage, 3¢, Schapker & Bussing-Evansville, Ind., [365] - \$200
 1837 Feuchtwanger Cent, BU, [50] - \$45
 United Artists 5¢ trade token (Indian/eagle), XF, [15] - \$12
 Miller Storecard: Ill.14, XF, [15] - \$1.60
 " " : Md.83, VF, [37½] - \$3.50
 " " : Mass.15, Unc., [40] - No bids
 " " : Mass.55, Proof, [37½] - \$1.50
 " " : N.Y.27, F, [50] - \$6
 " " : N.Y.964, XF, 4 pieces, [60] - \$25
 " " : Pa.398, XF, [115] - \$50
 1920 Wilson Dollar, HK 449, toned Unc., [275] - \$125
 1933 Pedley Ryan Dollar, HK825, [40] - \$20
 Five pieces U.S. WWII POW script, [12½] - \$8.50

4 QUEENS TOKENS: You've probably run across some of these alum. tokens. The machines kick them out at random intervals, about 1 every 20 min. of play. The pink video poker machine tokens seem to be much scarcer than the gold slot machine ones.



YOU'RE SPECIAL

Slot players have always been special at the Four Queens. So we've formed a club — the REEL WINNERS CLUB® — for slot players only.

EVERYONE WINS!

Because the special Reel Winners tokens are dispensed regularly during play, you'll get them with or without jackpots, simply by playing. The more you play, the more you receive. Reel Winners tokens are available from Reel Winners slots only... these slots have the same liberal payback as all Four Queens slot machines. **The tokens are an extra bonus.**

Now, video poker players can be Reel Winners! Enjoy the one-to-one competition and relaxed pace of video poker and take advantage of REEL WINNERS CLUB® membership benefits.

Just look for our selected video poker machines and you'll be eligible to receive REEL WINNERS CLUB® Tokens! You qualify for membership once you've collected 10 tokens and follow the instructions for membership above.

Gold tokens from dollar slots may not be combined with pink tokens from video poker machines for redemption. **They must be redeemed separately.**